



# ANCIENT GREECE



Mycenaean heroes. The most famous bard was a Greek named "*Homer*". His poems are the earliest surviving example of Greek literature. Homer retold the traditional stories about the Trojan War. He composed two epic poems: "*The Illiad*" (the story of part of the siege of Troy) and "*The Odyssey*" (an account of Odysseus' journey home to Ithaca).

The population steadily increased and areas expanded in size. Some areas were over-populated and sometimes there were famines. People began to settle in places around the Mediterranean Sea. These new colonies rapidly grew and became independent.